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12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)

The aim of this training grant is to support the graduate education of Mr. Ken Williams, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Microbiology at Meharry Medical College. Mr. Williams completed 11 hours of formal instruction in his second year, bringing his total hours of didactic course work to 27. He lacks two courses from completing the formal course requirements for the advanced degree in his department. His next important hurdle is to successfully negotiate the qualifying examination for the Ph.D. degree.

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#### A. Training objectives

The objectives are to guide Mr. Ken Williams to a Ph.D. degree in the Department of Microbiology. His Ph.D. program is divided into 3 phases: (i) the core phase; (b) the major emphasis phase; and (3) the dissertation phase. The core phase occupies the first two semesters of graduate work. During this period all students complete a core curriculum of courses entitled Biomedical Sciences I, II, and III. The major emphasis phase begins immediately after the student completes the core curriculum. During the major emphasis phase the student selects a preceptor and committee on instruction with guidance from the major emphasis department, completes departmental course requirements, and conducts thesis research. The major emphasis phase ends when the student passes qualifying examinations for the Ph.D. The dissertation phase begins when the student passes qualifying examinations for the Ph.D. The student is then designated a candidate for the Ph.D. During this phase the student completes his or her thesis research, writes a dissertation, and defends it.

#### B. Status of the training effort

Mr. Williams entered the major emphasis phase of his program during the current reporting period and completed 11 hours of formal course work toward the fulfillment of his departmental requirements. His overall classroom performance to date is summarized below:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Credit hours</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Biomedical Science I	4	B
Biomedical Science II	4	C
Biomedical Science III	4	B
Laboratory Rotation	4	P
Molecular Genetics	3	B
Microbial Physiology	3	B
Recombinant DNA	4	A
Microbiology Seminar	1	P

Since Mr. Williams has maintained an average of 3.0, he remains in good academic standing. The only problem thus far in his progress is his failure to complete Medical Microbiology, an 8-hour course required by the Department of Microbiology program. He withdrew from his first attempt when it became evident that he was headed toward an 8 hour "C". He will retake the course at the first opportunity.

In the meantime, Mr. Williams has formed a committee on instruction and begun preliminary laboratory experimentation to help him focus on the proposal for his dissertation research.

C. Publications - None

D. Coupling activities - Mr. Williams attended the American Society of Microbiology annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

E. New discoveries - None

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